

Message Text

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17

ACTION EB-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-05 INT-05

L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01 OES-02

SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-01 FEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01

USIE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 /075 W
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O R 071138Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4112

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 9422

BRUSSELS FOR ASST SEC THOMAS O. ENDERS

DEPT FOR EUR/CE FLATIN

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, AU

SUBJ: AUSTRIA AND THE IEP

REF : STATE 243014 AND VIENNA 9366

1. FOLLOWING ARE PRINCIPAL POINTS EMERGING DURING CONVERSATION
BETWEEN SEKTIONSCHEF FRANK (MINISTRY OF TRADE) AND ECONCOUNS
ON AUSTRIAN DECISION TO JOIN IEP, NOVEMBER 6 (PRIOR TO RECEIPT
STATE 244172).

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2. FRANK SAID TWO MAIN ITEMS REMAIN TO BE WORKED OUT WITH IEP AS FAR AS AUSTRIA IS CONCERNED, NEUTRALITY DECLARATION AND MINIMUM RESERVE REQUIREMENTS. RE NEUTRALITY, FRANK SAID HE WAS CERTAIN THAT THERE WOULD BE A MEETING OF MINDS BETWEEN AUSTRIA, SWEDEN AND SWITZERLAND, THAT DECLARATION WOULD BE SAME FOR ALL THREE BUT THAT THERE MIGHT BE SLIGHT DIFFERENCES IN PROCEDURE FOR ANNOUNCING DECLARATION. TAKING CUE FROM STATE 243014, ECONCOUNS EXPRESSED HOPE THAT STATEMENT ON NEUTRALITY WOULD NOT MINIMIZE PARTICIPATION BY AUSTRIA AS THIS COULD CREATE DIFFICULTY FOR OTHER MEMBERS OF GROUP AND THAT DECLARATION SHOULD NOT LIMIT OBLIGATION TOWARDS OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES. FRANK REPLIED THAT AS FAR AS HE IS CONCERNED, DECLARATION GOA HAS IN MIND WOULD NOT BE A PROBLEM TO OTHER MEMBERS. HE IMPLIED THAT DECLARATION WOULD BE SIMILAR ALTHOUGH NOT SAME AS SWISS OECD STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARA 4 REFTEL.

3. RE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS, FRANK EXPRESSED HOPE THAT AUSTRIA COULD BECOME MEMBER EVEN THOUGH IT MAY TAKE FROM TWO TO THREE YEARS BEFORE ADEQUATE STORAGE FACILITIES HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED. HE REITERATED HIS STRONG BELIEF THAT AUSTRIA SHOULD HAVE HAD SUCH FACILITIES MUCH EARLIER AND THAT NOW AS THE TIME TO MOVE AHEAD VIGOROUSLY WITH A SOUND EMERGENCY STORAGE PROGRAM. HE WAS READY TO GO AHEAD WITH SUCH A PROGRAM AND EXPRESSED OPTIMISM ABOUT OBTAINING THE SUPPORT OF INDUSTRY FOR THIS PURPOSE. (INFLUENTIAL FEDERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HAS INDICATED ITS SUPPORT OF AUSTRIAN MEMBERSHIP IN IEP. HEAD OF AUSTRIAN OIL ADMINISTRATION(OEMV) TOLD US PRIVATELY THAT OEMV WOULD COOPERATE WITH GOA IN IMPLEMENTING MEMBERSHIP).

4. FRANK SAID THAT GOA WOULD BE REPRESENTED IN BRUSSELS, NOVEMBER 8, BY AMBASSADOR SEYFFERTITZ, FOREIGN OFFICE; DR. KUSSBACH IN LEGAL SECTION OF FOREIGN OFFICE; AND DR. HALADIK FROM FRANK'S OFFICE IN MINISTRY OF TRADE. CONCOUNS REITERATED OUR CONCERN RE NEUTRALITY DECLARATION, INDICATING WE WOULD ALSO TRY TO REACH SEYFFERTITZ PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR BRUSSELS. MOWINCKEL

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